

REMARKSAmendments

In the Notice of Allowability mailed December 28, 2004, the Examiner made an Examiner's Amendment to claims 1 and 3. These amendments are presented above and are indicated as "currently amended".

In the specification, an error in the Japanese text in the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 3 was noted by the translator. The amendment to this paragraph has basis in the same paragraph two sentences before the amended language.

Certified Priority Document

Although the Notice of Allowability indicated that a certified copy of the priority document has been received by the Office, the files of the undersigned have no record that a certified copy was sent. Therefore, another copy is being sent with this RCE.

Disclosure Under 37 CFR § 1.56

In fulfilling the duty of candor and good faith, the following documents are hereby disclosed to the Patent Office in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56. It is not admitted that the information in the listed documents is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b). The Examiner is requested to consider the documents in the examination of this application.

Accompanying this statement is a Form PTO-1449 in duplicate on which the documents are listed (except as indicated). The Examiner is requested to return an initialed and signed copy of the form once the documents have been considered.

The following documents were cited by the Japanese Patent Office in the International Search Report and/or the International Preliminary Examination Report for International Application No. PCT/JP03/14323, which is a counterpart for the priority document for this application, i.e. Japanese Application No. 2002-329478. The two documents cited in the International Search Report were cited in category "X" ("document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone"). A copy of the International Search

Report for International Application No. PCT/ JP03/14323 is attached (in English and Japanese), as is a copy of each of the documents.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Sub-Class</u>	<u>Category</u>
2002/0008692 A1*	01/24/2002	Omura et al.	345	173	**

* Counterpart of Japanese Publication No. 2000-043484 A (February 15, 2000).

** Cited in International Preliminary Examination Report; no category indicated.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Sub-class</u>	<u>Translation enclosed</u>	<u>Category</u>
9-152938 A	06/10/1997	Japan	G06F	3/033	Abstract	X
6-082301 A	03/22/1994	Japan	G01H	11/08	Abstract	X

Fee

Applicants believe that because this Disclosure Statement is being submitted with this RCE, no fee is due. If this is incorrect, please charge any necessary fee to Deposit Account No. 18-0560.

Conclusion

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action at an early date is earnestly requested. If, however, there are any outstanding issues which can be usefully discussed by telephone, the Examiner is asked to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO-1449
(Rev 8/83)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Atty. Docket No.:	Appl'n No.:
ELG060-US1	10/712,753
Applicant:	
Tanaka et al.	
Filing Date:	Group:
Nov. 12, 2003	2856

US PATENT DOCUMENTS

* Exr. initial	Document number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing date (if appropriate)
	2002/0008692 A1	01/24/2002	Omura et al	345	173	

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	6-082301 A	03/22/1994	Japan	G01H	11/08	Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

Exr. initial	Details of Document	Translation enclosed (?)
	Search Report for International Application PCT/JP03/14323, mailed 13 Jan 2004.	Yes

Examiner's signature

Date considered

* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.